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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT

Laboratory Tests on Czechoslovakian Fireproofing Agent "Burnstop"

PLACE ACQUIRED

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NO. OF PAGES

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INI

SUPPLEMENT TO

for the US government, has made the following analysis of a Czechoslovakian chemical called "Burnstop." This sample was obtained from Chemapol, Ltd., by a US importing firm.

1. The following analysis is reported:

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- a. Examination of the sample revealed that it consists of one pound of a gray-white crystalline material. The chemical tests revealed that that compound is entirely inorganic, contains sodium and ammonium ions, and that other metal groups are not present.
 - (1) Phosphates, sulfates and borates were identified in the sample.
 - (2) The pH of the aqueous solution is 7.6 (slightly basic.)
 - (3) A small amount of a white impurity, insoluble in water, was found and also a small contamination of dirt.
- b. When heated the mass first evolves water of crystallization and then melts, boils and fuses to a white mass.
 - (1) The above reactions were consistent with those of well known fireproofing compositions containing disodium acid phosphate, ammonium sulfate and borax or boric-acid salts.
 - (2) While no quantitative analysis was run to determine the exact proportions of the constituents, it was the judgment of the testing agency that the major component is sodium phosphate with a large content of bases.
 - (3) Ammonium sulfate is present, probably in amounts not exceeding 15 per cent.
- 2. Conclusions drawn from the tests described above are as follows:
 - Mixtures of the cited inorganic materials are well known to the trade as fireproofing agents.
 - (1) This class of compounds is well discussed in the "Fireproofing of Fabrics," His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1947, by J. E. Ramsbottom. This publication indicates that the three ingredients noted are all excellent for fireproofing and are even better in combination.

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- b. "Burnstop" is evaluated as a good fireproofing agent.
- c. "Burnstop" does not differ materially from other well known fireproofing agents well proved in American practice.
- 3. It was not felt necessary to undertake a quantitative determination of the chemical composition of this substance or to run actual tests of its effectiveness in fireproofing fabrics because the tests described above in Paragraph 1. revealed that "Burnstop" is directly comparable with fireproofing agents successfully used in the USA.

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